

What is claimed is:

1 1. A timing device comprising a carrier having at least one code track of a group
2 and, overlapping therewith, at least one code marking, which is scanned by a sensor unit to
3 produce signals, wherein the at least one code track has a different optical density compared to
4 the first group, and wherein the code markings within a code track overlap.

1 2. The timing device according to claim 1, wherein the first group and additional
2 groups of code markings are scanned by the same sensor-emitter-unit.

1 3. The timing device according to claim 2, wherein the code markings of the first
2 group overlap with those of the additional groups within the code track.

1 4. The timing device according to claim 3, wherein the sensor unit comprises a
2 light source and a light sensitive sensing device

1 5. The timing device according to claim 4, wherein in the sensor unit a two-
2 channel evaluation of the optical signals is performed.

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[illegible]

to different gray levels which can span a range between light-blocking and almost complete transparency.

is made of a reflecting material and the code markings have a different degree of reflectivity.

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forming segments on the timing disk or the timing ruler for controlling different functions.

1 11. The timing device according to claim 10, wherein the code markings of the
2 second and subsequent group are used for controlling one of a start and an end position, for one
3 of calibration purposes and for absolute positioning.

1 12. A positioning device, comprising a timing device with a carrier having a first
2 group of code markings in at least one code track, with the code markings being scanned by at
3 least one sensor unit for producing a signal, and comprising a signal processing device, the
4 signal processing device converts the sensor signal into a control signal and is connected after the
5 sensor unit.

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